

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michael Zrubek, et al.	Group Art Unit: 2168
Application No.: 10/707,017	Examiner: Paul J. Sommerfeld
Filed: 11/14/2003	Attorney Docket No.: 800725
Title: System and Method for Automated Link Analysis	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Introductory Comments

Enclosed with this Office Action Response is a Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally under 37 CFR 1.137(b) and a fee under 37 CFR 1.17(m).

Please enter the following specification, drawing and claim amendments prior to considering the Remarks below. Paragraphs 0001 and 0012 have been amended to replace the patent application numbers by the corresponding patent publication numbers. Paragraph 0034 has been amended to include the reference designations 160, 170, and 180 for the remote similarity search agent, the source document or record, and the target document or record, respectively. Paragraph 0042 has been amended to correct minor spelling errors. Figure 1 of the first drawing sheet has been amended to include depiction of source documents 170, target documents 180 and similarity search agents 160 in remote databases 150. The location of the similarity search agents, the source documents and the target documents have been disclosed in paragraphs 0012 and 0034 of the specification as filed. Applicants have amended

independent claims 1, 17 and 29 to include the limitation of “determining similarity scores between the source and target documents by a similarity search server and associated remote similarity search agents”. This limitation has been disclosed in paragraphs 0012 and 0034, and supported by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0078364 A1 (U.S. Patent Application No. 10/653,690), which is incorporated by reference into the application as filed. Claims 17 and 26 have been amended to replace “means” with “link analysis engine”. New claims 33-36 have been added.

In the Office Action received having a mail date of 05/03/2006, the Office has rejected claims 1-3, 5, 7-14, 16-19 and 21-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Aslam et al (Aslam, Javed; Pelekhov, Katya; Rus, Daniela; Static and Dynamic Information Organization with Star Clusters, 1998, Department of Computer Science, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 10 pages). The Office also rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aslam et al, in view of Apte et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,654,739 B1), and claims 6, 15, and 20 as being unpatentable over Aslam et al, in view of Lam et al (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0220858 A1).

Applicants have amended the specification, drawings and claims, as discussed above, to further distinguish Applicants’ claimed invention over the references cited by the Office and to overcome the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) presented by the Office. Applicants contend that, based on the following amendments and discussion, there are patentably distinguishable claimed features between the invention represented by these claims and the cited reference disclosures of Aslam et al, Apte et al, and Lam et al.

Entering of the following amendments, reconsideration and reexamination of the application are requested. Support for all amendments is found within the specification. No new matter has been entered as a result of these amendments.